

## STEWARDS REPORT

<b>Club:</b>	Launceston Trotting Club
<b>Date:</b>	Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> September, 2023
<b>Weather:</b>	Fine
<b>Track Condition:</b>	Good
<b>Stewards Panel:</b>	N Finnigan (Chair) R Brown C Ellson B Hine (Cadet) M Robinson M Castillo & M MacDonald
<b>Officials:</b>	Medical Edge (Raceday Medical Providers) Dr R Blackwell (Veterinarian) & A Emery (Starter)

### **RACE 1 – BEVAN LEE’S BUTCHERY TWO YEAR OLD – 1680m Mobile**

**DEMOLITION MAN** – Broke for a short distance in the middle stages of the score-up.

**SABINE** – Having its first registered race start. Placed on its last chance to race truly after breaking gait free of interference leaving the 600 metres.

### **RACE 2 – TRAINERS ENCOURAGEMENT PACE – 2200m Mobile**

**CHRIS BE QUICK** – Slow to muster speed after the start was effected.

**IM QUITE AMERICAN** – Under pressure from the 400 metres, gave ground over the concluding stages.

**CHRISTIAN MAJOR** – Had difficulty in securing clear running over the concluding stages.

**HES APPLES** – Will continue to be excluded from the barrier draw in mobile start events after breaking gait free of interference shortly after the start.

### **RACE 3 – CROWN LAGER PACE – 2200m Mobile**

**STREZLECKI WATUSI** – Placed on its last chance in the barrier draw after racing rough and shifting out after the start was effected.

**ENDEVOUR STRIDE** – Eased at the start before working around the field to be positioned outside the leader. Failed to settle and allowed to race to the lead near the 1100 metres. Under pressure from the 400 metres.

**LETSPLAYUNI** – Failed to gain clear running over the concluding stages.

**KENYA** – Held up in the early stages of the home straight in the run to the finish.

#### **RACE 4 – LADBROKES ODDS SURGE PACE – 2200m Mobile**

**SEANNAFAIR** – Having its first registered race start. Held up for clear running until well into the home straight for the run to the finish. Obtained an inside run when LADY STRIDE shifted out over the concluding stages.

**JULEPE SANZ** – Failed to gain clear running over the concluding stages.

**LADY STRIDE** – Showed good early speed to lead. Broke its No3 carry strap during the run which may have contributed to the mare shifting up the track, and race roughly, over the concluding stages. An inspection of the gear found it to be of adequate quality, as such, no further action was taken other than to note the circumstances.

**SVITOLINA LEIS** – Failed to gain clear running over the concluding stages.

**KOSYGIN LEIS** – Failed to gain clear running over the concluding stages.

**BONNY MY BOY** – Over-raced mid-race when racing in a mid-field marker peg position.

**MY ULTIMATE JACKO** – Failed to gain clear running over the concluding stages.

#### **RACE 5 – STACEY LEAR PHOTOGRAPHY STAKES – 1680m Mobile**

**General:** A false start was declared when driver D Ford signalled the starter that he had gear problems. Subsequently it was confirmed the lugging pole had fouled with the bridle. Stewards noted the circumstances.

**ARDEN ROANOKE NZ** – Worked forward from the start, positioned outside the leader early before obtaining cover near the 1100 metres. Under pressure from the 600 metres, giving ground, beaten in excess of 110 metres. Subjected to a post-race Veterinary Inspection. On inspection no obvious abnormalities were detected. Stewards deemed the performance below the required standard and as such stood ARDEN ROANOKE NZ down from racing until trialling to the satisfaction of Stewards.

**YOUNG ROOSTER** – Checked when ARDEN ROANOKE NZ dropped back quickly through the field, leaving the 400 metres.

#### **RACE 6 – VIZPIX BROADCAST SERVICES PACE – 2200m Mobile**

**ROCKSTAR REBEL** – Having its first start for new stable. Placed on its last chance to race competitively after tiring out of the event over the final stages, beaten in excess of 60 metres.

**JACKSON NEPTUNE** – Locked wheels with BEAST MODE in the home straight for the run to the finish.

**BEAST MODE** – Locked wheels with JACKSON NEPTUNE in the home straight for the run to the finish.

**BIGJIMVALENTINE** – Re-included in the barrier draw for mobile start events after satisfying ORI requirements.

**MONTANA LAD NZ** – Will continue to be excluded from the barrier draw in mobile start events after failing to fill its allotted position at the start.

**General:** Stewards questioned driver O Weidenbach, together with trainer B Yole over the handling and the performance of MESSERATI, which after securing a favourable forward

trailing position early, was driven forward around the first turn, taking the lead leaving the 1800 metres. Driver Weidenbach stated that she had some knowledge of MESSERATI when employed by the previous trainer, believing the gelding is best described as a 'one-pace' horse and she had attempted to drive it as such, however once asked to work around the field, MESSERATI failed to settle and over-raced. Driver Weidenbach added she was also placed at some disadvantage when her reins slipped from the sulky seat and had dropped to drag along the track and in retrieving the reins, she had inadvertently given MESSERATI more rein. Trainer Yole stated that under the circumstances he was satisfied with the performance of MESSERATI. Driver Weidenbach was instructed to take whatever action necessary to prevent a repetition of this issue.

### **RACE 7 – LADBROKES YARD COMMENTS STAKES – 2200m Mobile**

**CHEDDAR VALLEY NZ** – Placed on its last chance to race truly after breaking gait free of interference approaching the winning post.

**LAID BACK KENNY** – Will continue to be drawn on the extreme outside in mobile start events after failing to fill its allotted position at the start.

**General:** Stewards questioned driver O Weidenbach, together with trainer B Yole over the handling and the performance of MAJOR MUCHA, which after racing in a mid-field, one-out trailing position, and moved wider approaching the 800 metres, failed to improve. Driver Weidenbach informed Stewards MAJOR MUCHA had travelled strong leading up to moving wider, adding that as the three-wide line had begun to form and progress around the field, she eased wider, expecting the gelding to improve and finish of the race well. However, once out into this line, MAJOR MUCHA was under some pressure, and only finished the race off fairly, beaten in excess of 30 metres. Stewards noted the evidence as tendered.

### **RACE 8 – CARLTON DRAIGHT STAKES – 2200m Mobile**

**SERENGETI SUNRISE** – Fractious before the start. Shifted ground rounding the final turn. Driver S Davis was instructed to take the necessary action in preventing a reoccurrence of this issue, as this has become an unacceptable racing trait of the gelding.

**LORD VERDE** – Had difficulty in securing clear running in the early stages of the home straight for the run to the finish.

**General:** At the "check-in", N Ford, the driver of the third placed HELANSIN, lodged a protest against SERENGETI SUNRISE (S Davis) being declared the winner, alleging interference on the latter stages of the home turn and into the home straight for the run to the finish. Stewards, after hearing from both drivers and reviewing the official race footage as well as considering their own observations, dismissed the protest and declared "all-clear" on the judge's numbers 3-8-6-4-5. Stewards in assessing the incident, acknowledged that SERENGETI SUNRISE had shifted ground near the 200 metres, however, was corrected by its driver and brought back toward the markers prior to, or at the very least, simultaneously, to driver Ford aiming HELANSIN up to the inside of SERENGETI SUNRISE. These movements resulted in HELANSIN shifting in, contacting markers. Driver Davis was given the benefit of the doubt on this occasion as to whether had caused HELANSIN to be checked as a result of his corrective movement.

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**Supplemental:** Stewards opened an inquiry into Race 9 from the Launceston Pacing Club's meeting on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2023. On the night in question, Stewards, were unable to question drivers G Rattray (YOUNG ROOSTER) and D Ford (LYNRYD SKYNYD NZ) after the race, as driver Ford only 18 minutes after the race, was found to have left the course.

Stewards, after taking evidence from both drivers, showing some exhibits as well as the official footage of the race, adjourned the inquiry until a time and date to be determined.

**Supplemental:** Stewards, after reviewing race and trial footage, questioned driver B Rattray over his drive on NEON in trial 2 from the Carrick Pacing Club's trial meeting on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2023, where it appeared he leant out and across from his sulky and pushed another runner (NORBET) in the run to the finish. Driver Rattray acknowledged that it was a "bad look", however attempted to justify his actions, claiming NORBET shifted out, and the inexperienced driver, S Tuthill, was having difficulty in keeping NORBET straight. Stewards, although not in agreement with driver Rattray's interpretation of events, gave him the benefit of the doubt on this occasion, as prior to this point in the trial, when racing in the lead and in the straights, NORBET had indeed had a tendency to shift out. The difference being when the incident with driver Rattray occurs, Stewards are of the belief that NORBET was keeping a relatively straight course and in fact NEON had shifted in. Driver Rattray was strenuously reminded of his obligations in this regard, particularly as he is a mentor of younger drivers.

**Supplemental:** At the completion of the above inquiry, driver B Rattray informed Stewards of an incident that occurred after the final race at the Tasmanian Trotting Club meeting on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2023, in the float car park. Driver Rattray claimed that after noticing a horse being loaded onto a float, and in his opinion being substantially lame, asked the Veterinary Surgeon, Dr M Buckerfield, to have a look at it, stating it was his obligation to inform the Stewards. Driver Rattray further stated that licensee H Worker, had taken offence to this, confronted him and repeatedly swore at him.

Stewards in considering the matter, firstly told Driver Rattray that if he had concerns and he feels it necessary to inform Stewards of any issue he was to in fact inform Stewards, not a Veterinarian or otherwise. Driver Rattray was also informed that the horse in question had already been assessed by Dr Buckerfield and the trainer had already been advised as to what steps he was to take for its continuing care. Further, stable-hand H Worker was reprimanded under AHR Rule 231(2) for misconducting himself. Stewards in assessing the incident took into account Mr Worker's age, his obvious remorse and his acknowledgement of his wrongdoings.

### **RACE MEETING SUMMARY**

<b>Suspensions:</b>	Nil
<b>Fines:</b>	Nil
<b>Reprimands:</b>	H Worker – Misconduct (10 <sup>th</sup> September, 2023)
<b>Horse Action:</b>	R5: ARDEN ROANOKE NZ – Stood Down 1 Trial
<b>Pre-race Swabs</b>	R2: CAROLS JUDGE, BUDGIESMUGGLER R3: LETSPLAYUNI R5: LETSGOBRO R6: LOOBY LOMBO, SCOTLYNN BEACH NZ R7: SNEAKY PEAK R8: KELLYS DELIGHT
<b>Post-race Swabs:</b>	ALL WINNERS

<b>Adjourned/Pending Inquiries:</b>	D Ford – Held over from 3 <sup>rd</sup> September, 2023
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